

G. O. P. MAPS OUT HARMONY PLAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

from the clamor for a revision of the rule respecting the basis of representation," he said. "Those who seek a substitute for the practice which has heretofore obtained in national conventions, contend that certain States and Congressional districts are accorded representation out of all proportion to the Republican voting strength of such political subdivisions, and they insist that remedial legislation must be adopted in advance of the next regular convention because of the futility of attempting to secure such readjustment in a nominating convention."

"They hold that if the rule is ever to be modified, such modification must precede the Congressional elections of 1914, in order that what they consider justifiable discontent may give way to united party action. There are those who concur in the view that changing conditions call for a revision of this rule, but who hold that the abuse complained of is objectionable or menacing only when a national administration is in position to take advantage of the situation to perpetrate itself or its policies, and that as the existing Federal administration will not be potent in the next regular Republican convention, they may safely defer the adoption of the curative legislation which they earnestly advocate until the convention of 1916."

Many Old-timers Present.

The scenes in the lobby of the Willard were much like those witnessed in a city where a national convention was about to be held. Many old-timers were present, together with leaders who have come into prominence as a result of the Progressive movement. There seemed to be a general air of suspicion among these men as they exchanged ideas and rubbed elbows. Some of the old guardmen looked askance upon the proposal to hold a special convention because it was advocated by Progressives. They also looked upon the proposition as being in the form of a Progressive conspiracy to capture the party organization. On the other hand, Progressives charged that the regulars who were fighting the convention plan represented the irreconcilable, never-say-die stand-patters who were willing to wreck the party rather than yield concessions demanded by Progressive sentiment. It looked early in the day as if the opposition to the special convention plan was growing, and that some form of compromise would be adopted that would amount to a rebuff to Senator Cummins, who had hoped at Chicago last year, and who is now a candidate for the first honor to be awarded by the convention of 1916. Senator Cummins remained in his office at the Capitol, and there received such of the visitors as cared to call on him. Chairman Hill remained in his room most of the day in conference with leaders of the two factions. James H. Reynolds, secretary of the committee, who is understood to be opposed to the special convention plan, was a busy man. Those who opposed the special convention suggested an alternative. They advocated the drafting of a declaration of principles, to be strongly Progressive in spirit, including an expression of favor to the reduction of Southern representation. They also suggested the assembling of a "conference" instead of a convention. They argued that at a conference plans for harmony might be drafted, asserting that an informal gathering of the kind would be productive of more good than would be possible in a convention conducted under the restrictive and unyielding rules that govern such bodies.

States Position on Convention.

National Committeemen, Warren, of Michigan, early sought out Senator Cummins, Root, Smoot, and other leaders. He told Senator Cummins that unless it was decided that the call for the convention should specifically limit the business of the gathering to the plan to reduce Southern representation that he would fight the proposal in committee. Mr. Cummins gave assurances that he would not ask the convention, if called, to draw up a code of Progressive resolutions, and that his only purpose in moving in the matter was to cut down Southern representation as a bid for popular support for the party. Mr. Cummins asserted that the reform would

have to be effected as a means of reducing the influence of the rank and file in the party leadership. He said that the state of mind of the gathering as a whole was strikingly demonstrated in the arrangements made for last night's dinner. Former Gov. Hadley, of Missouri, who was the floor leader for the anti-Taft forces in Chicago a year ago, came to Washington with the story of National Committeemen Leland, of Missouri, and a shock to the office of the committee. Now, Gov. Hadley took part in the Progressive conference held in Chicago, where the report was drawn up requesting the national committee to call a special convention to reduce Southern representation. Some of the old guardmen, however, are opposed to the plan. It will be recalled that Watson led the Taft forces on the floor of the Chicago meeting last year. In other words, although the leaders assembled here in the hope of adopting a program of harmony they were inspired by the general feeling of suspicion that prevailed to make all preparations for a possible fight.

McHarg Predicts Rev.

Ormsby McHarg, of New York, who has had a stormy career in politics, was one of the business men around the Willard. He sought conferences with leaders of both factions, urging upon all of them his opinion that harmony would have to be effected through the various organizations. He insisted that whatever organizations might be taken by the committee or the leaders a grand row would be staged in a special convention that would play hob with the plans of the leaders to bring the factions together. Incidentally, Mr. McHarg told many of the regulars that in 1916 the Republicans would have to right the wrong committed in 1912, when, according to Mr. McHarg, Col. Roosevelt was deprived of the nomination that was justly due him.

Those of Old Guard Present.

Among the old guardmen in the lobby of the Willard yesterday were "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was as chipper as ever; Jim Watson, Jim Hemenway, and Joe Keating, of Indiana; National Committeemen Estabrook, of New Hampshire; Senator Penrose, and others. Very few of the Progressives were in evidence. The most prominent was Gov. Hadley, who had hoped at Chicago last year, and who is now a candidate for the first honor to be awarded by the convention of 1916. Senator Cummins remained in his office at the Capitol, and there received such of the visitors as cared to call on him. Chairman Hill remained in his room most of the day in conference with leaders of the two factions. James H. Reynolds, secretary of the committee, who is understood to be opposed to the special convention plan, was a busy man. Those who opposed the special convention suggested an alternative. They advocated the drafting of a declaration of principles, to be strongly Progressive in spirit, including an expression of favor to the reduction of Southern representation. They also suggested the assembling of a "conference" instead of a convention. They argued that at a conference plans for harmony might be drafted, asserting that an informal gathering of the kind would be productive of more good than would be possible in a convention conducted under the restrictive and unyielding rules that govern such bodies.

EFFORT TO BRING CONVENTION TO WASHINGTON TO BE MADE

An effort will be made today to induce the subcommittee of the Republican National Committee to recommend Washington as the meeting place of the next convention, according to a decision reached at a joint meeting of the committee of the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade, and Retail Merchants' Association. The inducements which this city has to offer against those of other cities will be presented to the subcommittee of the

national organization which meets today at the Willard. Although this city is not able at present to offer a fund, the local conventions committee will make efforts to secure a fund to pay the expenses of the convention, should it decide to meet here.

DISTRICT LOSES BUDGET BILL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

NO CHRISTMAS BONUSES.

Announcement Saddens Employees of Wall Street Firms.

New York, Dec. 15.—Sadness was spread among thousands in the financial district today when many large brokerage firms, who have annually presented large sums to their employees, sent out notices that no Christmas gifts or bonuses would be given this year.

The notices upset expectations of employees of houses that have followed the Christmas gift custom for many years.

A Wall Street man who was asked to explain this action of the employers said: "This has been a bad year. There was not the uncertainty over the tariff bill. Now there is uncertainty over the currency measure. No one knows what will come next."

"The public is not investing. Speculation is dead. Firms which in former years have at times had to make large increases in their staffs this year have had to reduce the number of their employees and those retained have not had enough work to keep them busy."

"There is nothing the matter with legitimate business, but the public is keeping out of the speculative market."

TWO TEST VOTES INDICATE SAFETY

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who have denounced the banks with the greatest ferocity and the most extreme language are willing to turn this system over to the control of bankers."

Threatened with Bankruptcy.

Senator Hitchcock admitted there was some truth in Senator Stone's charge, because bankers in Omaha in 1906 had summoned him (Hitchcock) into their office and told him to change his newspaper attitude on public questions under pain of bankruptcy.

"And that was not done because of personal animosity," said Senator Hitchcock. "Those men were my friends, but they thought the success of Mr. Bryan meant the ruin of the country."

"I believe most bankers, a very large majority, are honest men," said Senator Stone, "who desire to discharge the duties of good citizenship. There is not much danger of Hepburn, Vandenberg, or Allen becoming potential; the Federal reserve board has power to appoint the directors, and to supervise, with power of removal."

In a speech last week Senator Stone assailed A. Harton Hepburn, of New York, Frank A. Vandenberg, of New York, and Milton Allen, of Washington, and bankers generally.

Senator La Follette's friends denied that the Senator from Wisconsin was planning a long or drawn-out fight. They said he had assured them that he would require very little time to say what he desired to on the bill.

AERIAL COMMITTEE MAY STUDY ABROAD

Proposal Made for Congressional Junket—U. S. Behind Other Countries.

The proposal has been made that a Congressional committee be appointed to go to Europe and see what other governments are doing to develop military aviation as a practical adjunct to the operations of the army and navy. This proposal is supported heartily by those who feel that Congress has erred in spending a total of only \$40,000 in five years on aviation, while other governments are spending millions of dollars annually for the same purpose.

Germany has already expended \$20,000,000 in aviation development in the army and navy. France is a close second, with a total expenditure of \$22,000,000, with Russia, Italy, Austria, England, Belgium and Japan following in the order named. Even such nations as Chile, Bulgaria, Greece, Spain, and Brazil have spent more money on military aviation than the United States, which is classed with such nations as Denmark, Sweden, and China. Public subscriptions, amounting to millions, have been made up in several European countries for the support of aviation development projects.

The United States has no dirigibles, and only seventeen aeroplanes, to be operated by nineteen military pilots and nineteen officers detailed for aviation duty. France has twenty-two dirigibles and all aeroplanes operated by an aviation corps consisting of 32 officers, 620 military pilots, and 1,174 officers and enlisted men detailed for aviation service. Other European governments have aviation corps developed in proportion.

Leaf tobacco imported into France during the first eight months of this year weighed 60,000,000 pounds, an increase of 10,000,000 pounds over the corresponding months in 1912.

SAME PACE FOR MULES AND COTTON NECESSARY

That the price of cotton must follow the price of mules, was the economic law propounded to the House yesterday by Representative Heflin of Alabama.

"You in the West," he declared, "have educated us in the South to pay \$25 to \$30 for a mule. We in the South are compelled to educate you to 15-cent cotton. A few years ago we got our mules for \$20; the change is not our fault."

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PASSAGE OF VOLUNTEER BILL IN SENATE LIKELY

Senator Chamberlain Expects to Bring Up the Measure in Early Part of January.

FAVORED BY ARMY OFFICERS

Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, expects to bring up the bill in the Senate early to January the bill recently passed by the House providing for the raising of volunteer forces in time of war or threatened hostilities. The bill passed without opposition in the House, and no signs of opposition to the measure have developed in the Senate, and its passage is expected.

The bright prospects for the volunteer bill are hailed with delight by army officers, as the General Staff has been urging such legislation as the pending measure for many years. It has the strong support of Secretary Garrison. Military authorities predict for the United States as much confusion as was experienced in previous wars unless the pending measure is passed before another war comes.

A feature of the bill regarded by army officers as highly important is that under it the President will appoint the officers of the volunteer regiments to be raised. Officers of the regular army, however, will not find berth in the proposed volunteer regiments, as the bill provides that only four officers of the regular establishment shall be assigned to each of such volunteer regiments from among those having had experience in the National Guard. The President will have the appointing power, however